

Minutes, Faculty Assembly Meeting
1200 Orndorff Hall
March 2, 2017

Chairman: Greg Lieving
Secretary: Deb Beutler

Chairman Lieving called the meeting to order at 1:03 PM. Several members were attending the meeting via Skype from the Beckley campus.

- I. The minutes for the February 2, 2017, meeting were approved.
- II. Announcements
 - A. Melissa Sartore on behalf of the Research Committee:
 1. Dr. Richard Squire, Professor of Chemistry, is writing an article for a Festschrift (a forthcoming book of original articles) to honor Oxford University Professor Emeritus Norman H. March. The article is entitled, "Do Symmetry-Breaking Transitions in Photosynthetic Light Harvesting Complexes Form a Kibble-Zurek Model (KZM) Topological Defect?"
- III. Administration Report – Carolyn Long
 - A. Men's Basketball earned an at-large bid to the NAIA Division II National Championship tournament. They will play #2 seed Robert Morris University (IL) on March 9, 2017 in Point Lookout, MO.
 - B. The move to Beckley
 1. A website will soon be available that will list what day each building will be moved.
 2. Keys for the offices and labs in Beckley will be available for pick up on this campus soon.
 3. IT will send information about computers. They will pack and move them then hook them up in Beckley.
 4. Moving will begin the Wednesday, May 10, 2017. Most of the move will be done May 10-12. Offices need to be packed and ready to move before the date scheduled.
 5. Some offices and labs will not be moved until June because the buildings are still under remodeling or construction.
 - C. KVC agreement to use Montgomery campus
 1. The papers have not been signed yet but should be signed soon.
 2. We will be able to keep at least one lab to store things until they can be moved later in the summer.
 3. Please leave all of the spaces for which you are responsible clean for the new occupants. We don't want them to have to clean up after us before they can get underway the way we did in Beckley. Either take it or toss it.
 - D. Legislature is in session
 1. Tom Fast introduced a bill to prevent WVU Tech from moving to Beckley but it won't go anywhere in the legislature.
 2. New cuts of about \$340 million need to be made in the budget.
 - E. The classified staff remodeled Van Dyke Hall on the Beckley campus to create locker rooms for the athletic teams.
 1. The new locker rooms look great
 2. Saved us many thousands of dollars because it was done in-house.
- IV. Provost Report – Nigel Clark
 - A. He thanked the faculty who sponsored students who presented at Undergraduate Research Day at the Capitol. WVU Tech was 1 of 14 schools that participated.
 - B. Harmonization - WVU's Registrar will be visiting WVU Tech on March 14-15
 1. Meeting with the Chairs to work on requirements for the degrees.
 2. Finalizing the details so we can roll out Degree Works.

- V. Chair Report – Greg Lieving
 - A. Cabinet meeting was held February 22, 2017
 - 1. New student admissions are going well for 2017
 - 2. The new website is up and looks good
 - a. Double-check your areas of expertise to make sure all of the information is correct.
 - b. Send any corrections to Jen Wood-Cunningham.
 - 3. Nursing – 94% of students passed the board exam on the first attempt and the remaining students passed on their second attempt – so 100% passage rate
 - a. Statewide, the passage rate was 88%
 - b. WVU passage rate was 96%
 - 4. Digital Measures – nursing faculty on this campus have to use it and find that it is easy to use
 - 5. Move will be conducted in 2 legs
 - a. Right after graduation, May 10-12
 - b. June 6-8
 - 6. Printers – we will be able to take our printers, but replacing them when they wear out will be difficult
- VI. ACF Report – Sandra Elmore
 - A. Legislative Update – She sent it out via email, including a listing of the bills that affect Higher Ed. (see attached handout)
 - 1. HB2542 – Human Resources Bill
 - a. It will not eliminate tenure, contrary to certain rumors.
 - b. It has only one line in it about faculty
 - c. Along with HB2079 could eliminate the HEPC
 - d. It would allow layoffs to be based on performance and tasks needed, not seniority, allowing for greater flexibility in government
 - e. If the HEPC is eliminated, WVU’s BOG would probably adopt most HEPC’s rules regarding faculty
 - 2. HB 2079 – could eliminate the HEPC, at least for WVU
 - a. WVU would no longer be held to HEPC rules
 - b. WVU, including WVU Tech, would be regulated by WVU Board of Governors
 - 3. March 15, 2017 is Higher Education date at the Capital.
- VII. Senate Report – Courtney Barko
 - A. Governor ‘s State of the State address indicated that there was a \$500 million deficit statewide
 - 1. More cuts to higher education will be needed to reduce the deficit
 - B. Nigel Clark gave a presentation about the move of WVU Tech to Beckley
 - 1. Engineering lab building should be finished by the end of the summer
 - 2. The stone bear will be moving to Beckley
 - C. PEIA forms are due May 15
 - D. The Global Affairs Office held a meeting in Morgantown and via the internet to the branch campus about President Trump’s travel ban.
 - E. WVU is now an R-1 tier research in
 - 1. Currently, we are ranked 109 out of 115 similar institutions
 - 2. But we just moved to R-1 so we are hoping to move up soon.
- VIII. Committee Reports - None
- IX. New Business
 - A. Academic Affairs
 - 1. Next month there will be a motion to change the Constitution as it relates to the Academic Affairs Committee
 - 2. As the Constitution now reads, the committee is in charge of assessment
 - 3. Marcia Bastian is actually the Assessment Coordinator and is in charge of it
 - 4. The new change will make the Assessment Coordinator an ex-officio, non-voting member of the committee
 - 5. Allows for her to give the committee updates on assessment and get faculty input on assessment

- B. Asad Davari asked for an update about a faculty member's request to form an ad-hoc committee to investigate a grievance the faculty member had expressed.
 - 1. Chair Lieving said he brought the issue to the attention of the administration and nothing was done about the issue and he would look into it and ask the faculty member if the committee was still needed.

The meeting adjourned at 1:37 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah K. Beutler, Ph.D.,
Professor, Biology

BILLS RELATED TO HIGHER EDUCATION:**MARCH 2, 2017**

- HB 2020 Freezing PEIA employee premiums for three years.
 HB 2079 Abolishing HEPC
 HB 2080 Increases the amount of incremental salary from 60.00 to 100.00 per year
 And allows eligibility after one year instead of three.
 HB 2097 Allow colleges to charge ½ credit for each credit hour taken over the 15th hour
 HB 2118 Abolishing West Virginia Council for CCTC. Power transfers to BOGs.
 HB 2138 Right to keep and bear arms. Would override all local regulation of firearms.
 HB 2144 Interest deductible on student loans.
 HB 2184 Permits teachers under State Teachers Retirement System to teach college
 Level courses without loss of benefits.
 HB 2335 No academic personnel decisions could be based on political or religious beliefs.
 HB 2542 Eliminates bumping. Allows some colleges to have their own personnel rules.
 Higher Education Human Resources bill. Same as Senate Bill 274. It will not
 eliminate tenure per Provost McConnell's email on 3-1-17.
 HB 2557 Relates to tuition and fees at community and technical colleges. Cannot exceed
 \$6000.
 HB 2559 Licensed concealed weapon carriers may bring on campus. Restricted if
 Institution has metal detectors. May deny during public events.
 HB 2633 Requires state institutions to conduct Phase 3 clinical research studies for
 any cancer treatment
- SB 32 Higher education institutions to place placement rates in directories.
 SB 184 Transition WV School of Osteopathic medicine to nonprofit corporation
 SB 199 Budget bill
 SB 274 Higher Education Human Resources bill

TRACKING:

- 2020 – In Banking (No movement since 2/8/17)
 2079 - House Education (No movement since 2/8/17)
 2080 - In Government Organization (No movement since 2/8/17)
 2097 - House Education (No movement since 2/8/17)
 2542 - HR Bill – Passed House 2/28/17 - Now in Senate Education Committee
- 32 Senate Education (No movement since 2/8/17)
 184 Senate Government Organization (No movement since 2/8/17)
 199 Senate Finance (No movement since 2/8/17)
 274 Senate Education to Senate Finance on 2/13/17

Submitted by S. Elmore, Tech ACF Representative on 3/2/17 at Faculty Assembly